

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 2-3, 8 and 10-11 AMEND claims 1, 4, 7, 9 and 12-14 and ADD new claim 15 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing delivery goods when directly delivering goods from a deliverer to a location associated with a recipient comprising:

~~receiving identification information for delivery goods entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location;~~

~~extracting delivery goods information and recipient information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from a storage unit which stores the delivery goods information and the recipient information corresponding to the delivery goods information; and~~

~~notifying said recipient of the delivery goods information based on the recipient information while the recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location, wherein the delivery goods information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location associated with the recipient~~
receiving information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods from the location is sent, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extracting recipient information from a storage unit which stores the recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation requests; and

notifying said recipient of the confirmation request information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, said method further comprising:

further storing information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit and receiving the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient;

extracting the deliverer information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notifying said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of managing delivery goods according to claim 31, further comprising:

further storing information for a client corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit, and extracting the delivery goods information and client information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notifying said client of the reception approval/refusal information based on the client information.

5-6. (Previously Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A delivery goods management apparatus for managing delivery of goods from a deliverer to a location associated with a recipient comprising:

~~a storage unit which stores delivery goods information and recipient information corresponding to the delivery goods information;~~

~~a unit which receives delivery goods identification information entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location;~~

~~a unit which extracts the delivery goods information and the recipient information from said storage unit; and~~

~~a unit which notifies said recipient of the delivery goods information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, wherein the delivery goods information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location~~
a storage unit which stores recipient information corresponding to information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods, which includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location, and also stores information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit;

a unit which receives information for the confirmation request entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location, and also receives the delivery

goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient;

a unit which extracts the recipient information from said storage unit and also extracts the deliverer information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

a unit which notifies said recipient of the confirmation request information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, and also notifies said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium which stores a program for making the computer:

~~receive delivery goods identification information entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods is absent from a location associated with the recipient;~~

~~extract delivery goods information and recipient information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from a storage unit which stores the delivery goods information and the recipient information corresponding to the delivery goods information; and~~

~~notify said recipient of the delivery goods information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, wherein the delivery goods identification information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location associated with the recipient~~
receive information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods at a location associated with a recipient entered by a deliverer when the recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extract recipient information and recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation request; and

notify said recipient of the confirmation request information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, said computer readable storage medium further making the computer:

further store information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit and receive the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient;

extract the deliverer information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notify said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium which stores a program according to claim 44⁹, further making the computer:

further store information for a client corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit, and extract the delivery goods information and client information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notify said client of the reception approval/refusal information based on the client information.

13. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for managing the direct delivery of an item to a location associated with a receiver comprising:

~~determining that a deliverer attempted to deliver an item to the location associated with the receiver;~~

~~determining that the deliverer did not deliver the item because the deliverer could not get approval from the receiver;~~

~~notifying the receiver of the delivery attempt while the recipient is absent from the location; and~~

~~determining whether the receiver approves or rejects delivery of the item to the location while the recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location~~receiving information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods from the location is sent, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extracting recipient information from a storage unit which stores the recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation requests; and

further storing information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit and receiving the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient; and

notifying said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a data processing system, comprising:
~~communicating to a registered user that an authenticated deliverer is attempting to deliver an item to a location associated with the user while the user is absent from the location and is requesting delivery instructions; and~~

~~forwarding delivery instructions from the user to the receiver~~ receiving information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods from the location is sent, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extracting recipient information from a storage unit which stores the recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation requests; and

further storing information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit and receiving the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient; and

notifying said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

15. (New) The delivery goods management apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said storage units further stores information for a client corresponding to the delivery goods information, said unit which extracts the recipient information further extracts the delivery goods information and client information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and said unit which notifies said recipient of the confirmation request information further notifies said client of the reception approval/refusal information based on the client information.